

Description for Use of Satellites by Global Foundation for Ocean Exploration

The Global Foundation for Ocean Exploration (GFOE) is a 501c3 not for profit organization in Mystic, CT that serves government and academic institutions in the fields of research and ocean exploration. Our satellite systems are mounted on board research vessels of opportunity, and are used to transmit data and video collected by our underwater robots. This data and imagery is transmitted to the public in near real time through the internet, making it possible for anyone with an internet connection to participate remotely. This 'telepresence' technology allows for two-way communications between scientists on shore, and the scientists and engineers on board the ship. Onboard scientists can then interact with dozens of others worldwide who provide scientific context in real-time while we are at sea.

The mission of GFOE is to develop the capabilities and foster the relationships necessary to be a global presence in the world of ocean exploration, as well as an international resource for our partners. Through our work in the deep sea, we help society to understand, interpret and protect this critical ocean environment. We empower the underwater science community with the tools and expertise required to explore the greatest depths of the planet's largest and deepest bodies of water.

GFOE trains the ocean exploration workforce, not only for the national ocean exploration program, but for the community at large. We identify and develop career paths for young engineers that allow them to experience an end-to-end process of undersea technology design through application. We are also committed to supporting filmmakers who can tell the stories of our ocean, helping to increase public awareness and appreciation of the underwater environment.